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Application Number	09/764,072
Filing Date	January 19, 2001
Inventor(s)	Hisham S. Abdel-Ghaffar
Group Art Unit	2115
Examiner Name	Mark A. CONNOLLY
Attorney Docket Number	29250-000502/US

## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

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Remarks		

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name Gary D. Yacura	Reg. No. 35,416
Signature			
Date	December 5, 2005		

GDY/DAP:let



PATENT  
29250-000502/US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Appellants: Hisham S. Abdel-Ghaffar **Appeal No.** \_\_\_\_\_  
Serial No.: 09/764,072 Group: 2115  
Filed: January 19, 2001 Examiner: Mark A. CONNOLLY  
For: A METHOD OF DETERMINING A TIME OFFSET ESTIMATE  
BETWEEN A CENTRAL NODE AND A SECONDARY NODE

**REPLY BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.41**

December 5, 2005

**MAIL STOP REPLY BRIEF - PATENTS**  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
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Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Sir:

Appellants respectfully request that the Appeal Board consider the enclosed remarks pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.41, which are filed in response to the Examiner's Answer mailed on October 4, 2005.

**Remarks** begin on page 2 of this Reply Brief.

**REMARKS**

**Examiner's Admission contradicts his own Argument**

In Section A of the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner stipulates that "Premerlani does not compensate for time wraparound until after an initial round trip delay is calculated" (Emphasis Added).<sup>1</sup> However, in a later argument, the Examiner states "the round trip delay (RTD), interpreted as a time offset, is calculated using the converted downlink and uplink timing information set forth in section A" (Emphasis Added).<sup>2</sup> Appellants respectfully submit that the Examiner's argument contradicts itself.

If, as the Examiner admits, Premerlani does not compensate for time wraparound until after the RTD is calculated, then the calculation of the RTD is clearly not "based on the converted downlink and uplink timing information" as recited in independent claim 1 (Emphasis Added). Rather, the RTD is based on unconverted, periodic information.

**Two periodic values do not represent a continuous value**

The Examiner's argument set forth in the Examiner's answer mailed on October 4, 2005, attempts to argue that uplink and downlink information is converted into a continuous time scale because a difference of two periodic time stamp values is used to calculate the RTD.<sup>3</sup> Initially, Appellants

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<sup>1</sup> See page 9 of the Examiner's answer mailed on October 4, 2005.

<sup>2</sup> See page 11 of the Examiner's answer mailed on October 4, 2005.

<sup>3</sup> See page 9 of the Examiner's answer mailed on October 4, 2005.

respectfully submit that a subtraction involving two periodic numbers is not a conversion to a continuous time scale. Continuous numbers do not experience time wraparound. Accordingly, Premerlani's performance of a time wraparound compensation after the RTD calculation supports the Appellants' argument that no conversion to a continuous time scale occurs before the RTD calculation.

Again, it is not clear how the Examiner can argue that Premerlani determines "a time offset estimate between the central node and the secondary node based on the converted downlink and uplink timing information" as recited in independent claim 1 when the Examiner admits that "Premerlani does not compensate for time wraparound until after an initial round trip delay is calculated" (Emphasis Added).<sup>4</sup>

Appellants respectfully request that the Appeal Board consider the above remarks in conjunction with the remarks previously made in the Appeal Brief filed on July 14, 2005.

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<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

**Conclusion**

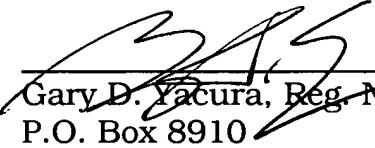
Appellants respectfully request the Board to reverse the Examiner's anticipation and/or obviousness rejection of claims 1-10.

The Commissioner is authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By:

  
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